

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4991
ANSWERED ON:20.12.2002
POWERLOOM WORKERS
SHIVRAJ SINGH CHOUHAN

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of workers engaged in powerloom industry, state-wise ;
- (b) the percentage of the cloth being manufactured through power-loom out of the total cloth manufactured in the country;
- (c) the details of the financial assistance provided by the government to encourage power-loom industry in the country during the last three years, year-wise and state-wise; and
- (d) details of the schemes being implemented by the government for welfare of the workers engaged in this industry?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL (YATNAL))

(a) As on October 31,2002, estimated number of workers engaged in powerlooms in the states/union territories having significant powerlooms concentrations is as follows:-

Sr. No. Name of the State/U.T No. of workers as at the end of the month

(I) State

1. Andhra Pradesh 109808

2. Assam 6315

3. Bihar 7235

4 Gujarat 795658

5. Haryana 24705

6. Himachal Pradesh 3653

7 Karnataka 204580

8. Kerala 6758

9. Madhya Pradesh 109662

10. Maharashtra 1792100

11. Orissa 8298

12. Punjab 59535

13. Rajasthan 79875

14. Tamil Nadu 800490

15. Uttar Pradesh 164835

16. West Bengal 10903

(II) Union Territory

17. Dadra and Nagar Haveli 2325

18. Pondicherry 2075

(b) It is estimated that about 59 - 60% of the total cloth produced in the country is being manufactured in the decentralised powerloom sector.

(c) & (d) Government is implementing various schemes and providing financial assistance to encourage the decentralised powerloom industry. These include:

(i) A programme for induction of 50,000 shuttleless and for 2.50 lakh semi automatic and automatic looms in the decentralised powerloom sector has been announced. Incentives are available under the Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) where the powerloom owner can either avail 12% upfront credit Linked capital Subsidy or reduce the cost of borrowing the capital by interest reimbursement of 5%. As on October 31, 2002, proposals of 169 projects of decentralised weaving sector were received under TUFS. Of these, 113 projects requiring Rs. 94 crores were sanctioned Rs. 59 crores, of which Rs. 40 crore had been disbursed. The state-wise information is given below:

Sr. No. State / U.T. (Rs. in crores)

	No. of applications	Project Sanctioned	Cost Amount	Amount Disbursed
1 Delhi	1	0.71	0.45	0.45
2 Gujarat	47	19.17	11.00	9.94
3 Haryana	14	16.95	7.28	6.15
4 Karnataka	2	3.26	2.38	0.28
5 Maharashtra	9	22.42	19.03	8.89
6 Nagaland	1	1.57	1.41	0.43
7 Punjab	5	3.31	2.36	2.04
8 Rajasthan	11	9.92	4.49	4.19
9 Tamilnadu	19	11.69	6.92	4.29
10 Uttar Pradesh	1	1.27	0.38	0.32
11 West Bengal	3	3.60	3.24	3.24
Total	113	93.86	58.92	40.24

(ii) In forty-four major Powerloom clusters in the country Powerloom Service Centres (PSCs) have been established to provide various services including designs, training, skill upgradation and the testing facilities etc. to the powerloom weavers. The powerlooms at the PSCs have been upgraded so that powerloom weavers can be trained to operate modern looms. The Government of India modernised 21 PSCs during 9th Five Year Plan period at an estimated expenditure of Rs. 12.23 crore.

(iii) Seventeen Computer Aided Design Centres in Powerloom Service Centers have been established to provide value addition through design inputs into powerloom production.

(iv) Powerloom workers aged between 18 to 60 years and earning a minimum average pay of Rs.700/- per month can join the Group Insurance scheme, which provides for Rs. 10,000 on natural death and Rs. 20,000/- for accidental deaths alongwith accumulated amounts. Since inception of the scheme 19,424 persons have availed this facility and Rs 7,76,960 have been spent for this purpose. During last three years the state-wise and year-wise amount spent is given below:

S.No State 1999-2000 2000-01 2001-02

1 Rajasthan	Rs. 80,280	No claims received	Rs. 7,720
2 Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 96,800	Rs. 36,800	Rs. 11,680
3 West Bengal	Rs. 68,000	No claims received	No claims received
4 Kerala	Rs. 45,320	Rs. 29,320	No claims received

Total Rs. 2,90,400 Rs. 66,120 Rs. 19,400